Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /066 W
----------091700Z 098005 /42
P 051200Z MAY 77
FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 988
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL TORONTO
AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER
AMCONSUL CALGARY
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 QUEBEC 0180

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CA
SUBJECT: JIHAD ANYONE?

REF: MONTREAL 0712

1. SUMMARY: DEBATE ON PQ'S PROPOSED LANGUAGE POLICY HAS INTENSIFIED AND NOW DOMINATES POLITICAL DISCUSSION IN PROVINCE. LEVESQUE GOVERNMENT IS REPORTED TO BE DIVIDED WITH MODERATES FAVORING LESS BRUTALLY RIGID LANGUAGE FORMULA. FRANCOPHONE MILITANTS, LED BY CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER LAURIN, ARE OPPOSING SIGNIFICANT CONCESSIONS WITH THREATS OF RESIGNATION FROM CABINET AND BY RAISING SPECTRE OF AROUSED FRANCOPHONE REACTION. THUSFAR, PUBLIC OPPOSITION TO "BILL ONE" HAS BEEN DISORGANIZED, EMOTIONAL, AND LARGELY INEFFECTIVE. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SIGNS MORE COHERENT OPPOSITION MAY BE EMERGING. FRENCH CANADIAN TYCOON, PAUL DESMARAIS, HAS COME FORWARD AS CONVINCING SPOKESMAN FOR BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND LIBERAL PARTY ANGLOPHONE DEPUTIES IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAVE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CALLED FOR UNITY WITH MODERATE FRANCOPHONES IN COMMON OPPOSITION. BOTH LEVESQUE AND MODERATE ANGLOPHONES PERCEIVE DANGER OF INITIATIVE FALLING INTO HANDS OF ZEALOTS, AND BOTH PRESUMABLY ARE WORKING FORESTALL REACTION FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE JACOBINS. END SUMMARY.

2. DEBATE ON PROPOSED PQ LANGUAGE POLICY HAS INTENSIFIED SINCE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

TABLING OF "BILL ONE" DOMINATING POLITICAL DISCUSSION THROUGHOUT
PROVINCE. CONTROVERSY IS MOST INTENSE IN MONTREAL WHERE THE
BULK OF PROVINCE'S ONE MILLION NON-FRANCOPHONES RESIDE. PRESS,
BOTH ANGLOPHONE AND FRANCOPHONE, HAS BEEN FILLED EACH DAY WITH
STATEMENTS AND COUNTERSTATEMENTS BY CRITICS AND DEFENDERS.
IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE PROBLEM HAS OVERSHADOWED ALL OTHER
GOVERNMENT BUSINESS SINCE WHITE PAPER WAS ISSUED LAST MONTH.

3. DIFFERENCES ON DETAILS, IF NOT ON PRINCIPLES, REPORTEDLY
HAVE DIVIDED LEVESQUE'S CABINET WITH MODERATES, INCLUDING PM
HIMSELF, FAVORING LESS BRUTALLY RIGID FORMULA. OPPOSING ANY SIGNIFICANT

CONCESSIONS ARE FRANCOPHONE MILITANTS, LED BY DECEPTIVELY MILD MANNERED

MINISTER FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, CAMILLE LAURIN. ACCORDING
TO USUALLY WELL INFORMED SOURCES IN CIVIL SERVICE, LAURIN HAS
THUSFAR ENFORCED CABINET SUPPORT THROUGH THREATS OF RESIGNATION
AND BY RAISING SPECTRE OF FRANCOPHONE MILITANTS AROUSED TO
"HOLY WAR" AGAINST INFIDEL ENGLISH SPEAKERS AND ALL OTHERS
TAINTED BY ASSOCIATION WITH THEM.

4. TO DATE, PUBLIC OPPOSITION HAS BEEN LARGELY DISORGANIZED,
EMOTIONAL, AND WITHOUT EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP. HOWEVER, SIGNS
OF MORE COHERENT OPPOSITION ARE BEGINNING TO EMERGE. "POSITIVE
ACTION COMMITTEE" HAS PRODUCED WELL REASONED CRITIQUE OF PROPOSED
LANGUAGE POLICY. PAUL DESMARAIS, CHAIRMAN OF POWER CORPORATION
AND PROBABLY THE MOST RESPECTED OF FRENCH CANADIAN BUSINESS
TYCOONS, SEEMS TO BE TAKING LEAD AS MOST EFFECTIVE MODERATE
SPOKESMAN FOR BUSINESS COMMUNITY. UNFORTUNATELY, ILLADVISED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 QUEBEC 00180 01 OF 02 091644Z

UNILINGUAL EFFORT BY EARLE MCLAUGHLIN OF ROYAL BANK (MONTREAL 0639)
SEEMS TO HAVE SUCCEEDED MAINLY IN REINFORCING FRANCOPHONE
STEREOTYPE OF ANGLOPHONE BUSINESS LEADER WHO IS INCAPABLE
OF SPEAKING FRENCH AFTER 32 YEARS RESIDENCE IN MONTREAL.
IMPACT OF SUBSTANCE OF HIS MESSAGE CERTAINLY DIMINISHED BY
FACT IT WAS NOT DELIVERED IN FRENCH.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUEBEC 00180 02 OF 02 062247Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EUR-12

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /066 W
----------091659Z 059428 /42
P 051200Z MAY 77
FM AMCONSU QUEBEC
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 989
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL TORONTO
AMCONSUL HALIFAX
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER
AMCONSUL CALGARY
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 QUEBEC 0180

5. ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT WHICH ENCOURAGES HOPE FOR THE GROWTH OF AN EFFECTIVE OPPOSITION WAS STATEMENT BY THREE LIBERAL PARTY ANGLOPHONE MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, MACKASEY, CIACCIA AND SPRINGATE, CALLING ON ENGLISH-SPEAKERS TO UNITE WITH MODERATE FRANCOPHONES IN OPPOSITION TO "BILL ONE." THEY EMPHASIZED DANGER OF IDENTIFYING OPPOSITION AS COMING SOLELY FROM ANGLOPHONE AND POINTED OUT THAT PROPOSED LEGISLATION COULD HARM FRANCOPHONES AS WELL AS ANGLOPHONES. APPARENTLY, THEY HAVE LEARNED LESSON FROM THEIR FUTILE RESISTANCE TO "BILL 22."

6. AMONG CRAZIES, UNION NATIONAL DEPUTY IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, WILLIAM SHAW, YESTERDAY TOLD ME, WITH BLUSTER AND CONFIDENCE, THAT "MASSIVE RESISTANCE" IS BEING ORGANIZED TO "BILL ONE." THERE WILL BE NO ONE LEADER OR SMALL LEADERSHIP GROUP WHICH COULD BE EASILY IDENTIFIED AND VICTIMIZED. INSTEAD, HE SAID, THERE WILL BE A HUNDRED OR MORE SMALL GROUPS WHOSE EFFORTS ARE TO BE COORDINATED AND DIRECTED BY MYSTERIOUS BEHIND SCENES DIRECTORATE WITH ASSISTANCE OF COMPUTER. SHAW, WITH WHAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 QUEBEC 00180 02 OF 02 062247Z POSS DUPE

APPEARED BE ZEAL OF THE UNFULFILLED DENTAL SURGEON SHINING IN HIS EYES, ASSERTED THAT "WE WILL DEFEAT BILL ONE BY MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO APPLY." THOUGH UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO BE PRECISE, SHAW SEEMED TO SUGGEST THAT SOME FORM OF PASSIVE RESISTANCE CAMPAIGN IS BEING PLANNED TO FORCE GOVERNMENT TO ALTER OR WITHDRAW BILL ONE.

7. COMMENT: IT APPEARS STRUGGLE OVER LANGUAGE POLICY IS ONLY BEGINNING. OPPOSITION LEADERS SUCH AS UN'S BIRON ARE PREDICTING LONG DEBATE IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THUS IT APPEARS PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENT ARE LIKELY BE PREOCCUPIED WITH THIS ISSUE FOR SOME TIME UNLESS GOQ CAN IMPOSE CLOTURE ON DEBATE AND FORCE ITS PASSAGE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

OR IS WILLING MAKE CONCESSIONS WHICH MOLLIFY OR DIVIDE MAJORITY
OF CRITICS. LEVESQUE CERTAINLY PERCEIVES POTENTIAL DANGER OF
INITIATIVE FALLING INTO HANDS OF ZEALOTS. WE HEAR NUMEROUS
RUMORS THAT BEHIND SCENES HE IS WORKING TO FINDS WAYS OF SOFT-
ENING LEGISLATION SHORT OF RISKING XENOPHOBIC REACTION FROM
AMONG HIS OWN JACOBINS. ON OTHER SIDE OF FENCE, ONE HOPES
RESPONSIBLE ANGLOPHONES WILL FIND MEANS TO CONTROL THEIR WILD
MEN. OTHERWISE, THEY RISK LOSING IMPORTANT MODERATE FRANCOPHONE
SUPPORT AND AROUSING PRESENTLY QUIESCENT FRANCOPHONE EXTREMISTS.
SUCH DEVELOPMENT WOULD FORECLOSE WHATEVER CHANCES THERE ARE
FOR GAINING CONCESSIONS WOULD BE LOST AND FURTHER POLARIZATION
ALONG TRIBAL LINES WOULD TAKE PLACE LEADING INEVITABLY TO
GREATER ISOLATION OF ANGLOPHONE MINORITY. HOWEVER, SUCH POLARIZATION
IS VITAL TO PQ IF IT IS TO WIN REFERENDUM. WHILE SOME OBSERVERS, SUCH
AS FORMER FINANCE MINISTER GARNEAU, HAVE TOLD ME THAT LEVESQUE IS
ACTUALLY OARCHESTRATING PRESENT CONFLICT BEHIND PUBLIC VEIL
OF MODERATION, IN ABSENCE OF HARD EVIDENCE I TEND
BELIEVE HE IS GENUINE MODERATE ON LINGUISTIC MATTERS AND
MOREOVER, THAT HE STILL WISHES PRESERVE RELATIVELY MODERATE
IMAGE OF HIS GOVERNMENT FOR TACTICAL POLITICAL REASONS.
MCNAMARA

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBATES, PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, LEGISLATIVE BILLS, OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUEBEC00180
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770162-1056
Format: TEL
From: QUEBEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770589/aaaaczki.tel
Line Count: 191
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ab6a179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MONTREAL 712
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2628296
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JIHAD ANYONE?
TAGS: PINT, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ab6a179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009